

PENTAX

DIAL DATA LX
DIAL DATA ME
DIAL DATA MX



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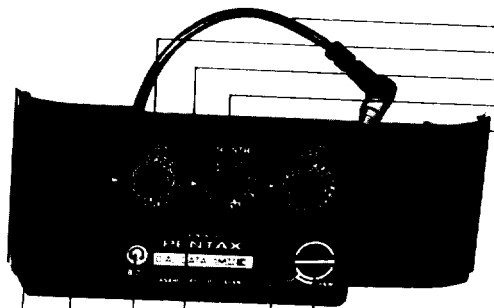
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The Pentax Dial Data units—Dial Data LX, ME, and MX—are extremely handy photographic accessories for imprinting a variety of useful information directly onto the corner of your photographs. There are three integral dials on the back of the Dial Data units, one each to record the day, month and the year. When used in various combinations, these dials can also record exposure data such as aperture setting, shutter speed, focal length of the lens in use (for 35mm lenses and shorter focal lengths) and magnification ratios. Alphabet letters from A thru O are also provided for coding different types of information. Basically all three data units are functionally the same, but differ in size and method of

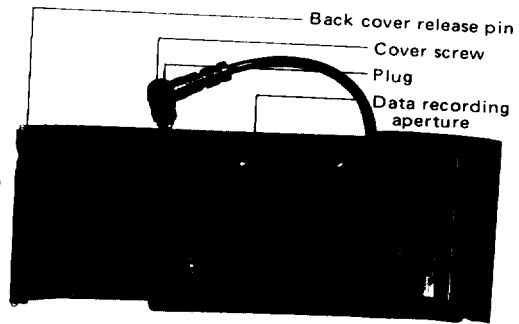
synchronization in accordance with their respective cameras. Dial Data LX and Dial Data MX are used exclusively with the Pentax LX and MX cameras, while Dial Data ME, in addition to the Pentax ME and ME SUPER, can also be used with the Pentax MV and MV 1 when Hotshoe Adaptor 2P is used. With a little imagination and by employing various codes, virtually unlimited applications can be found for the Dial Data units: scientific work such as indexing lab specimens, cataloguing products in industry, recording the progress of work on construction sites, use in school for cataloguing educational-related photos, or simply for dating snapshots and other photos.

Please read this manual carefully in order to understand the full capabilities of your Dial Data unit and ensure unflinching performance time and time again. The sections of the manual where instructions for all three Dial Data units are the same are illustrated using the Pentax ME and Dial Data ME. Where instructions differ for other camera and Dial Data units, however, the appropriate units were used in the illustrations. In addition, Dial Data LX was used to illustrate the "Setting the Dials" section on pages 10 and 11, although these instructions are the same for all three Dial Data units.

DESCRIPTION OF PARTS (DIAL DATA ME, MX)



- Sync cord
- Year dial
- LED indicator
- Month dial
- Day dial

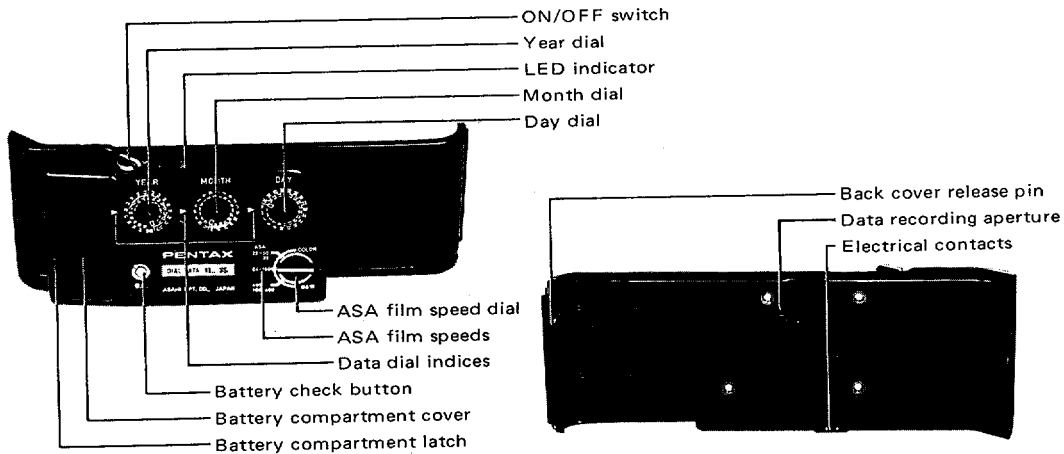


- Back cover release pin
- Cover screw
- Plug
- Data recording aperture

- ASA film speed dial
- ASA film speeds
- Data dial indices

- Battery check button
- Battery compartment cover
- Battery compartment latch

(DIAL DATA LX)



PRECAUTIONS

With Dial Data ME, MX: When either of these Dial Data units is used in conjunction with electronic flash, do not press the flash unit's "open flash" or test flash button while the data unit is connected as this will also trigger the data unit's recording device, resulting in double-exposure of the data. To avoid this, be sure to disconnect the Dial Data ME or MX unit before making a test flash. In addition, when either of these Dial Data units are used with the certain Pentax Autorobo flash units, there may be instances when the recording mechanism will not function at all. Should this occur, consult your Pentax Service Center. Best results are obtained when the subject matter in the lower portion of the photo (where the data is printed) is dark. When data is printed against a light background, it is often difficult to read.

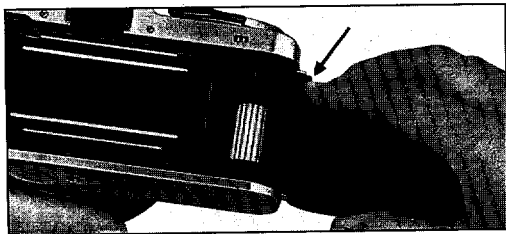
Batteries

The Dial Data units are powered by three silver oxide or alkaline batteries. When replacement is required, replace **all three** together with either Everready S76 or equivalent 1.5V silver oxide batteries or equivalent alkaline batteries. Do not mix battery types or old and new batteries as this lowers performance and increases the possibility of damage from leakage. Also, be sure to remove batteries when not using the Data Back for long periods of time to guard against leakage. When shooting in cold climates, use new batteries or keep spares on hand (that have been kept at warm temperatures) to guard against temporary battery failure due to cold.

ATTACHING THE DIAL DATA BACK

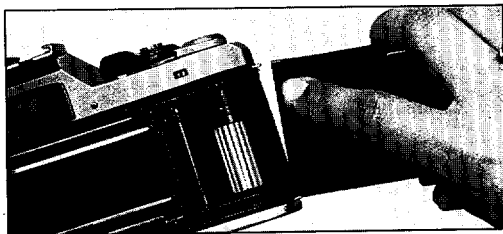
Removing the Standard Camera Back

Open the standard camera back and depress the back cover release pin (indicated by the arrow below). Pull the back outward from the top until it comes loose. (Be sure to place the camera back where it will not be easily damaged.)



Attaching the Dial Data Back

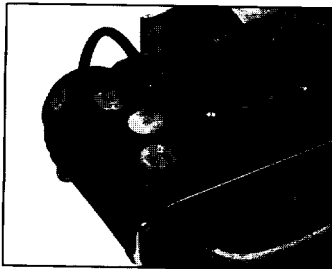
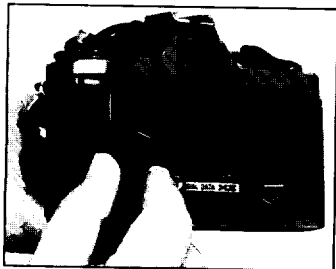
To attach the Dial Data to the back of the camera, reverse the above procedure. First insert the bottom pin of the Dial Data unit into the ring at the base of the camera. Depress the back cover release pin and align the top pin with the ring at the top. Release the back cover release pin so that the Dial Data back hinges between the two rings.



INSERTING BATTERIES

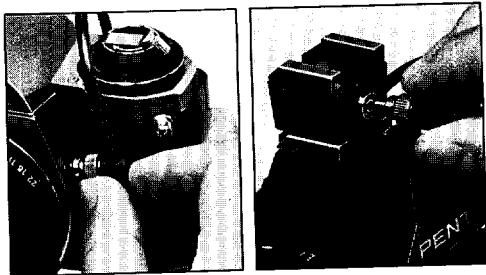
Slide the battery compartment latch in the direction of the arrow until the cover comes off. Insert the three 1.5V batteries with the (+) markings facing outwards.

Replace the battery compartment cover by inserting the two tabs into the notches on the right side to the battery compartment and closing the latch.



SYNCHRONIZATION WITH THE CAMERA

Depending upon the camera/dial-data combination, the method of synchronization and electrical coupling with the camera differs. Synchronize your particular Dial Data unit for operation with your camera as described in the following.



Dial Data ME with the Pentax ME, ME SUPER: Plug the sync cord of the Dial Data ME unit into the "X" sync socket on the camera body and tighten the collar screw to secure in place.

Dial Data ME with the Pentax MV, MV-1: As neither of these cameras feature an "X" synch socket, the accessory Hotshoe Adaptor 2P (sold separately) is required for synchronization. In this instance, mount the Hotshoe Adaptor on the camera hotshoe and connect the synch cord of the Dial Data ME to the "X" synch socket on the front of the adaptor unit.

Dial Data MX: Connect the synch cord of the Dial Data unit to the FP socket on the MX camera body, and tighten the collar to secure in place.

SYNCHRONIZATION – BATTERY CHECK

Dial Data LX: The Dial Data LX synchronizes with the LX camera cordlessly via special terminals on the camera body. After interchanging the Standard camera back with the Dial Data unit, simply set the ON/OFF switch to ON to synchronize the Dial Data with the camera. When data print out is not required, keep the switch set to OFF.

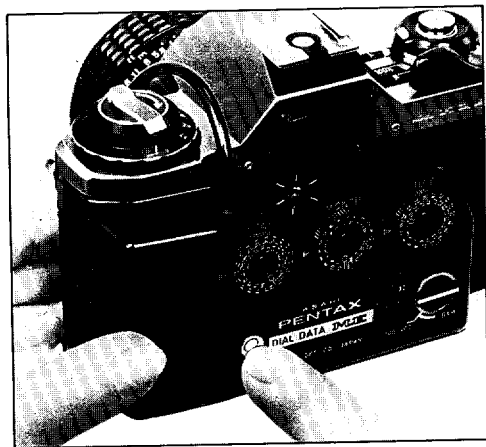


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Press the battery check button on the back of the Dial Data unit. The LED indicator will light, if the circuitry is functioning properly. When the indicator fails to light with new batteries, check that the batteries have been inserted as indicated on page 6. (In the case of the LX, be sure to set the ON/OFF switch to ON first.)
When the indicator no longer lights with old batteries, its time for replacement. (see pages 4 and 6).

TEST OPERATION

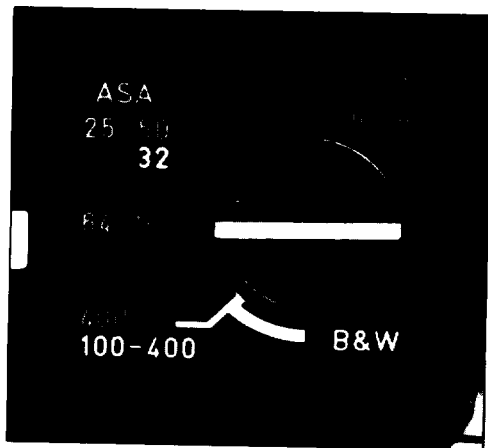
Before loading film in the camera (or while making blank exposures), close the dial data back and trip the shutter to test whether or not the Dial Data unit is functioning properly. If data is recording, the LED battery check indicator will flicker when the shutter releases. If it fails to flicker in the case of the Dial Data ME and MX units, check that the synch cord is secured properly to the synch socket on the camera body (see page 7). In the case of Dial Data LX, make sure that the switch is set to ON. If the cordless contact terminals of the Dial Data LX or the camera are dirty, the unit may not print. Wipe the contacts with a dry cloth occasionally to keep clean.



INDEXING THE ASA FILM SPEED

The ASA film speed dial on the back of the Dial Data unit features two settings for black and white film (ASA 32 and ASA 100-400) and three settings for color film (ASA 25-50, ASA 64-160 and ASA 400). Set the ASA dial to correspond with the ASA rating of the film loaded in the camera. For ASA 200 film, set the dial at ASA 400.

IMPORTANT: Incorrect setting the ASA dial may result in poor exposure of the data on the film. Make it a point to set the dial properly.



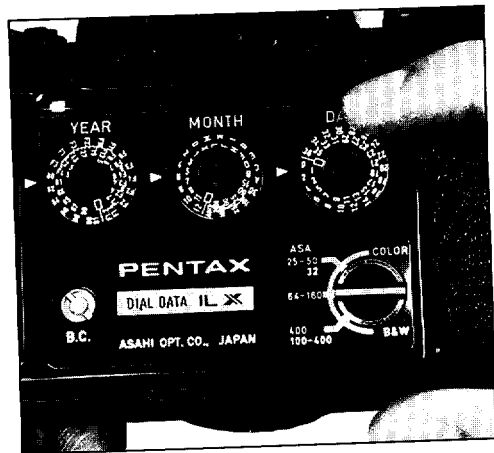
SETTING THE DATA DIALS

The data dial settings are the same for all three Dial Data units. Rotate the appropriate dial until the desired figure or letter aligns with the arrowhead index marks on the left side of the dial.

When you desire that a certain dial (or all three dials) not record, use the () setting. (In the case of the LX, simply turn the switch to OFF when you wish for no data print out).

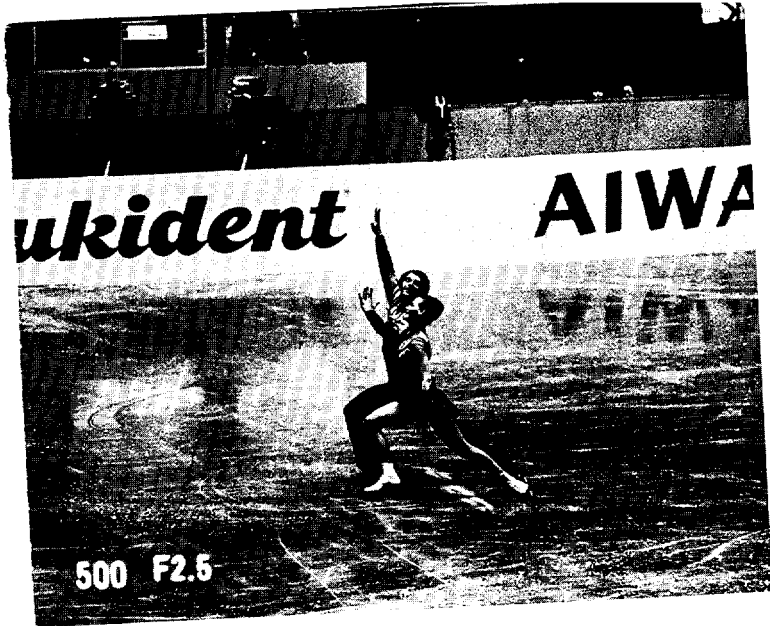
Depending upon how the dials are set, a wide variety of data may be recorded. Note the specific examples below. In addition, you can also devise your own code to record additional data for special applications.

80	6	1	=	(1980, June 1st)
F8	125	35	=	(F8, 1/125 sec., 35mm lens)
E	18		=	(Category E, No. 18)



SHOOTING POINTERS

- The camera operates in the same manner with the Dial Data attached as without, except that the data is recorded in the lower portion of the photograph. All three Dial Data units are lightweight and are designed to permit easy operation during hand-held shooting. In addition, they also may be operated in conjunction with tripod or copy stand and synchronize with the camera regardless of the shutter speed in use. Each unit also synchronizes with the respective winder, motor drive or flash unit of the camera in use, including the top speed of 5 frames per second of motor drives LX and MX.
- To ensure that the data printout is legible, the background lighting in the lower portion of the photo should be somewhat dark as data tends to washout against a light background. Each time the recorder prints, the LED indicator on the back of the unit will flash.
- Remember to remove batteries when not using the unit for long periods of time to guard against leakage. When operating at subfreezing temperatures, be sure to use new batteries to ensure maximum performance and keep a set of spares on hand (that have been kept warm) to ensure uninterrupted operation and guard against temporary battery failure due to cold.



"Skaters Crystallized on Ice" at
1/500 sec. with lens opened to
F2.5. The third dial could also be
employed for indexing contestants
(1- Finland, 2- Denmark 27-
Sweden, etc.)

SPECIFICATIONS

Type:

Interchangeable data recording camera back. Dial Data models LX and MX operate exclusive with the Pentax LX and MX cameras. Dial Data ME operates with the Pentax ME, and ME SUPER (also with MV and MV-1 when Hotshoe Adaptor 2P is used). To rear of camera in place of standard camera back. Models ME and MX synchronize via cord; model LX features direct cordless synchronization. Internal recording lamp projects the data onto the reverse side of the film.

Mounting:

**Recording System:
Data on Each Dial:**

Year Dial

- 3 groups
- 80 – 91 (Years 1980 – 1991)
 - F-numbers (F1.2, F1.4, F1.7, F2, F2.4, F2.8, F3.4, F4, F4.8, F5.6, F6.7, F8, F9.5, F11, F13.5, F16, F19, F22, F27, F32, F45, F1.8, F2.5, F3.5, F4.5)
 - Blank —□

Month Dial

- 4 groups
- 12 months of the year (1 – 12)
 - Shutter speeds: AUTO, 2000 (Not on Data MX), 1000, 500, 250, 125, 100, 60, 30, 15; months 8, 4, 2 & 1 double as shutter speeds
 - Letters A – O (B doubles as "B" shutter speed setting)
 - Blank —□

Day Dial

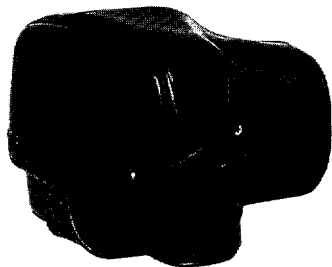
- 3 groups
- days (1 – 31)
 - Numbers (0 – 36) Nos. 15, 17, 18, 20, 24, 28, 30, 35 double as focal lengths for lenses
 - Blank —□

ASA Film Speed Settings:	Color	25 - 50	64 - 160	400
	B & W	32		100 - 400
Battery Checker:	LED indicator lights when battery check button is pressed.			
Number of Recordings:	Approx. 5,000 recordings with alkaline batt. (at Color ASA 64 - 160 setting) or approx. 1 year			
Recording Confirmation:	LED indicator lights when internal recording lamp is functioning.			
Joint Use with Motor	Records data in sequence on each frame at the operating speeds of respective winder or motor drive unit.			
Drives:	Three 1.5V silver oxide or alkaline batteries (Eveready S76 silver oxide etc.) or equivalent alkaline battery.			
Power Source:	Mounts without interfering with use of flash, tripod or other camera accessories.			
Other Features:	Dial Data LX: 147mm (L) x 53mm(H) x 29mm(D); 105 g			
Dimensions and Weight:	Dial Data ME: 134.5mm(L) x 54.5mm(H) x 30.5mm(D) 119g			
	Dial Data MX: 139.5mm(L) x 54.5mm(H) x 28mm(D); 122 g			
	(* weight without batteries; Depth of each unit increases 10mm when mounted to camera.)			



DIAL DATA SOFT CASE

This sleek camera case was especially designed for carrying your camera while the Dial Data unit remains mounted. Fits snugly over both the camera and the Dial Data unit, protecting both from dust and scratches (Models ME, MX and LX are presently available.)





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